



# PRESS RELEASE

U.S. EMBASSY RANGOON

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## **Visit of Acting Peace Corps Director to Discuss the Peace Corps Program**

Yangon, February 15, 2013 – Acting Peace Corps Director Carolyn Hessler-Radelet concluded a five-day visit where she met with government officials to discuss the Peace Corps mission, operations worldwide, and the potential for the government to invite Peace Corps to establish a program in the country. Ms. Hessler-Radelet is the first Peace Corps Director to pay an official visit to this country.

During her visit, Acting Director Hessler-Radelet met with representatives from the President's office and the Ministries of Education, Culture, Foreign Affairs, Health, Agriculture and other government officials to discuss the more than 50-year history and mission of Peace Corps. Ms. Hessler-Radelet also explored the possibility of an invitation from the government to initiate a Peace Corps program - the first ever in this country - and to expand people-to-people exchanges between the two countries.

Acting Director Hessler-Radelet also engaged students and English teachers at the U.S. Embassy's American Center and faculty from Yangon University.

**About the Peace Corps:** Since President John F. Kennedy established the Peace Corps by executive order on March 1, 1961, more than 210,000 Americans have served in 139 host countries. Today, 8,073 volunteers are working with local communities in 76 host countries in agriculture, community economic development, education, environment, health and youth in development. Peace Corps volunteers must be U.S. citizens and at least 18 years of age. Peace Corps service is a 27-month commitment and the agency's mission is to promote world peace and friendship and a better understanding between Americans and people of other countries. Visit [www.peacecorps.gov](http://www.peacecorps.gov) for more information.